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ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS

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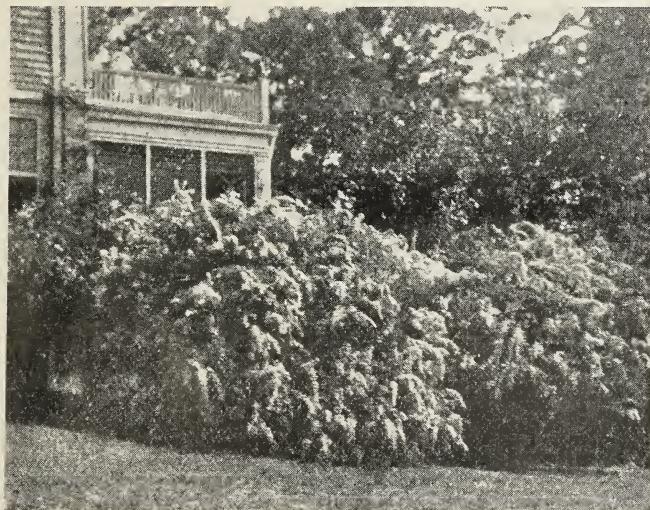
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U. S. Department of Agriculture

This nursery is located at Sideburn Station on the main line of the Southern Railroad sixteen miles west of Alexandria and four miles south of Fairfax, or Fairfax Court House, as it is often called. It may be reached by automobile from the hard surfaced Little River turnpike that runs from Alexandria west through Fairfax, turning south either at Ilda or Fairfax. Inspection of our stock is invited.

To have an attractive home is the hope and aim of every normal person. Next to the appearance of being in good repair nothing adds to the charm of home surroundings like beautiful trees and shrubs. Bright flowers in season and good foliage throughout the summer are important points in giving the desired results. To have the best appearance the plants must be of the size best suited to the location where it is proposed to put them, for no planting is really satisfactory unless it serves a definite purpose on the grounds. This purpose may be to soften the angle at the corner of the house and give the house the appearance of belonging where it is placed, or it may be to mark the entrance to the lawn or to hide an ugly outlook. The plant, in addition to its other qualities, should be selected to fill the need. The following list of shrubs includes those suitable for all uses, whether the grounds be small or large. To facilitate selections for any purpose they are arranged according to height.

SHRUBS ATTAINING A HEIGHT OF THREE FEET OR LESS.



Van Houtte's Spirea.

DWARF PINK SPIREA, ANTHONY WATERER SPIREA—(*Spiraea bumalda Anthony Waterer*)—This grows to a height of 18 inches, or a little more in broad clumps. The foliage is dark green, slightly shiny, an occasional leaf having a clear yellow splotch. The flowers are very small in showy, pink, flat-topped clusters two or three inches across in early summer after the spring flowers are gone with occasional blooms later. Stems a rich brown. Suitable for use alone or in front of taller plants.

DWARF WHITE SPIREA—(*Spiraea callosa alba*)—This grows to a height of 30 inches in moderately broad clumps. The foliage is dull green. The flowers are white in almost flat-topped clusters in early summer. Suitable for use alone or in front of taller plants.

DWARF DEUTZIA—(*Deutzia gracilis*)—Grows to a height of three feet with almost as much spread, has small, rather dull, foliage but in late spring the slender arching branches are covered with tiny white pearl-like buds that gradually enlarge until they burst into the fluffy flowers, thus making an unusually long period of special attractiveness. It is useful on the edges of shrubbery plantings and where low specimens are needed.

SHRUBS ATTAINING A HEIGHT OF ABOUT SIX FEET.

CORALBERRY—(*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*)—Makes clumps three to four feet high and as broad by arching branches that take root at the tips. The stems are brown, the leaves small, dull green, late in falling, and the pinkish flowers in early summer are rather inconspicuous, but the small, purplish-red berries are born in abundance along and at the tips of the branches and hold well into spring. The berries are duller than many others, but none are more persistent. It thrives in dry locations as well as on better soil and is useful for banks and on the edge of shrubbery clumps.

THUNBERG'S BARBERRY—(*Berberis thunbergii*)—Grows four to five feet tall, some times taller, with an equal spread of the graceful arching branches covered with small, dark leaves, dark-green when mature, often bronze when very young and pea green later, the young growths contrasting beautifully with the darker green of the more mature foliage. The flowers are very small, yellow, but are borne in abundance and are followed by brilliant scarlet berries, many of which hold all winter and form a beautiful contrast to the rich brown stems. It is sufficiently thorny to command respect without being dangerously obtrusive. It is useful in shrubbery or as specimens or hedges.

SWEET SHRUB—(*Calycanthus floridus*)—A great favorite in old gardens on account of its delicious fragrance in late spring and early summer. It grows three to four feet high with almost as much spread, having dark-green leaves with pale under surface and bears inconspicuous dark, reddish-brown flowers. Useful in shrubbery groups for its good foliage and sweet odor.

KERRIA, CORCHORUS, JAPANESE ROSE—(*Kerria japonica*)—Grows four to six feet high or a little more, and as much broad, with showy light-green stems that are especially conspicuous in the winter landscape. Its flowers are a deep clear yellow, one to two inches in diameter, and very handsome against the rather rough clear green smallish leaves. They are borne in abundance the last of May and less freely throughout the summer. Its foliage turns a brilliant yellow before dropping. It is useful in shrubbery groups because of the color of the flowers, the continuity of its blooming and the color of its stems.

DOUBLE KERRIA, GLOBE FLOWER—(*Kerria japonica*)—Grows six feet and more high and almost as broad with showy light-green stems, rough medium size, light-green foliage and double yellow flowers about two inches in diameter, borne abundantly the last of May and more sparingly the balance of the season. Most too delicate in appearance for an ideal specimen shrub but excellent in combination with other more rugged appearing ones.

BUTTONBUSH—(*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)—Usually grows about five feet tall, although it sometimes reaches twelve feet. In the smaller sizes it forms a compact bush, nearly as broad as high, with large dark glossy handsome leaves and in summer bears small white or yellowish flowers in balls about one inch in diameter at the ends of branches, three or more to a branch. It is useful in shrubbery beds on ordinary garden soil or on sandy moist soil.

REGEL'S PRIVET, DWARF PRIVET—(*Ligustrum ibota*, var. *regelianum*)—A dense, much branched, spreading shrub of five feet with grayish branches and a profusion of nodding clusters of small white flowers followed

by almost black berries that hold well through the winter. Excellent for fronts of shrubbery borders and for a broad informal hedge.

SNOWBERRY—(*Symporicarpos albus laevigatus*)—Is a broadly spreading shrub by upright curving branches that often attains a height of six feet with rather small dull green leaves and rather inconspicuous flowers followed in late summer and fall by conspicuous white berries that are attractive for several weeks. Useful for edges of shrubbery masses.

RUGOSA ROSE—(*Rosa rugosa*)—Is upright in growth to a height of six feet with brown stems densely beset with prickles and forming thickets by spreading from the roots. The foliage is dark green and very rough, while the flowers are single rose colored, three inches across, borne singly in abundance in late spring, but more sparingly though constantly throughout the balance of the season. The flowers are followed by large showy scarlet hips that are decorative most of the winter. It is useful in mass plantings and as a loose though effective hedge.

There is a white variety that is equally as desirable.

THUNBERG'S SPIREA. EARLY FLOWERING SPIREA—(*Spiraea thunbergii*)—This is one of the earliest of our spring shrubs to flower, sometimes opening its tiny star-like flowers in February before our winter is over. It makes a compact bush five feet high with slender arching branches and narrow, light-green foliage that gives it an airy appearance which contrasts nicely with the broader, heavier, darker leaves of most of our commoner shrubs. The small white flowers massed along the arching branches almost before the leaves, are most pleasing. The stems are brown. The branches often kill back slightly on the tips. It is useful as a specimen or in shrubbery masses. In the latter it can even be used as a facing shrub as its drooping habit hides the stems well.

VAN HOUTTE'S SPIREA. VAN HOUTTE'S BRIDAL WREATH—(*Spiraea van houttei*)—This grows to a height of five or even six feet with gracefully arching branches that when covered with its round clusters of small pure white flowers is a wonderful sight early in June. The flower clusters are an inch or more across and in a well grown plant overlap one another the full length of the branches. The individual flowers are only a third of an inch in diameter. The leaves are a good healthy green while their shape suggests the maiden-hair fern. The stems are brown. Excellent as a specimen, on the border of plantations or with lower plants in front.

PINK WEIGELIA—(*Diervilla florida*)—Grows six feet high with large somewhat dull foliage but an abundance of pink and white funnel-shaped flowers an inch or more long in clusters of two or three making a very showy bush in May that is especially useful in shrubbery groupings.

BRIDAL WREATH SPIREA—(*Spiraea prunifolia*)—The bridal wreath spirea is one of the plants common in the oldest gardens of this country. It grows six feet tall with somewhat arching brown branches. The foliage is small, dark, glossy green, like very small, shiny plum leaves. They turn brilliant orange in the fall. The flowers are small, very double, like formal white buttons strung along the branches in such profusion as to almost hide the branches. The stems are brown. Old bushes become scraggly if the old wood is not removed every few years. It may be used as a single specimen, the drooping branches giving it something of the vase effect, but is better used in groups with smaller shrubs in front to hide the stems.

PRIDE OF ROCHESTER DEUTZIA—(*Deutzia scabra* variety)—An upright shrub growing about six feet high with very much the appearance of the Philadelphus or "Mock orange" of northern gardens, but the white flowers are very different, the smaller petals being almost erect instead of flattened, slightly blushed outside. Its flowers are larger than those of most varieties and come the last of May. It is well adapted for use with other shrubs.

SWEET PEPPERMINT—(*Clethra alnifolia*)—Usually grows in rather upright bushes six feet high, although it will grow to a height of ten feet. It has medium size dark-green leaves and bears small white flowers in elongated

clusters in mid-summer. It may be used as a specimen but is especially useful in shrubbery groups for its summer flowers.

ODESSA TAMARIX—(*Tamarix odessana*)—Is a spreading shrub four to six feet high with small blue-green leaves almost asparagus-like and long panicles of small pink flowers on the ends of the branches in mid-summer. Its graceful airy appearance and color contrasting with most other shrubs give it a most useful place in adding variety to shrubbery groups. It does well in dry situations and within the reach of salt water, even where the ocean tide occasionally wets it.

JAPAN QUINCE—(*Chaenomeles japonica*)—In the north often called *Japonica*, grows to a height of six feet and old clumps even to eight under favorable conditions, the bushes if given room becoming almost as broad as high. The foliage is small but a dark shiny green, while the flowers come early before the leaves are well started. In the most common and most showy form they are scarlet and make the bush appear a mass of flame while others forms are various shades of red, pink, to almost pure white. It is useful in masses of shrubs as individuals in front of other plants.

BUTTERFLY BUSH—(*Buddleia davidii*)—Grows six feet or more high, upright with arching branches, rather large leaves and long clusters of small lilac flowers in late summer. Useful for late color in shrubbery groups.

WILD HYDRANGEA—(*Hydrangea arborescens*)—Attains some times a height of ten feet but more frequently found five or six feet high, with a spread almost as great. The foliage is a dull green, while the flowers are small, gathered in large flat-topped white clusters in early summer. Its showy white flowers desirably extend the flowering period of shrubbery groups.

PERSIAN LILAC—(*Syringa persica*)—Is small, growing only from five to eight feet tall, with slender arching branches, small leaves and pale lilac to whitish flowers in rather small loose panicles in late spring. A light airy small shrub for foregrounds.

MATRIMONY-VINE—(*Lycium chinense*)—Is a vine-like shrub that in good soil will make a mass of foliage six feet high with its arching branches that often grow twelve feet long that have gray bark. Its leaves are small and a dull green; while the flowers are pinkish but inconspicuous, though followed by showy scarlet berries in early summer and by another crop in early fall. It is useful on the borders of shrubbery groups because its drooping branches make a good connection with the turf, but it is especially good on banks, particularly where wash occurs, for any branch that is covered with a little earth will take root and form a new plant.

DROOPING GOLDEN BELL—(*Forsythia suspensa*)—Grows six feet or more high with arching branches, the tips of which trail upon the ground and often take root, thus giving the plant as great a spread as height, with medium size shiny green foliage, while the flowers are bright yellow, opening very early in the spring, often in winter as the result of warm days in January or February. This tendency to forwardness often results in the killing of the flower buds. The stems are golden brown and the shrub is excellent for banks and on the borders of shrubbery groups where the drooping branches connect interestingly with the turf.

FRAGRANT BUSH HONEYSUCKLE—(*Lonicera fragrantissima*)—Grows six feet high with spreading grayish branches making a bush as broad as high, with half-evergreen foliage and very early inconspicuous sweet-scented flowers during a long season. It is useful in shrubbery groups for its attractive foliage and form as well as for its fragrant flowers.

MORROW'S BUSH HONEYSUCKLE—(*Lonicera morrowi*)—Attains a height of six feet with equal breadth. The branches are grayish, often horizontal, much divided, bearing small, dark-green leaves. Inconspicuous flowers in spring followed by showy scarlet berries in abundance early in July, which the birds soon eat. Useful in shrubbery masses for its handsome appearance.

SHRUBS ORDINARILY FROM SIX TO TEN FEET HIGH.

ARROWWOOD—(*Viburnum dentatum*)—Ordinarily reaches a height of six or eight feet, although it sometimes reaches fifteen feet, forming a bushy shrub that in May bears small white flowers in flat-topped clusters two to three inches across, followed by bluish-black berries in the fall. A handsome shrub both in leaf and flower, and useful as a specimen and grouped with other plants.

GREENSTEM GOLDEN BELL—(*Forsythia viridissima*)—Grows eight feet high and more erect with green stems that are quite conspicuous and dark green lustrous foliage of medium size. The flowers are yellow, among the first to open in the spring; in fact, they are in such a hurry that they often come in February and get caught by late freezes. As compared with the Drooping Golden Bell, it is a little later and perhaps a little less hardy, but seems to be entirely satisfactory in Washington. It is useful for shrubbery groups and clumps.

FORTUNE'S GOLDEN BELL—(*Forsythia suspensa fortunei*)—This is an upright form of the drooping golden bell that grows somewhat taller and possibly has somewhat larger yellow flowers that come in very early spring, often too early to escape freezing. Useful in shrubbery masses where an upright shrub with golden brown bark is wanted instead of green or drooping stems.

TATARIAN DOGWOOD OR SIBERIAN RED OSIER—(*Cornus alba*)—Usually grows six to eight feet tall, although it sometimes gets larger with a spread of six feet or more. It has good sized dark-green leaves and small white flowers in June in flat-topped clusters two inches across, followed by white or almost white berries in late summer, but its most distinguishing character is the bright blood-red branches that are especially brilliant toward spring when high color is most appreciated. It is useful wherever winter brightness is desired and its effectiveness is heightened by a dark background as evergreens, dark foundations or masses of dark twigged shrubs.

GOLDENTWIG DOGWOOD—(*Cornus stolonifera flaviramea*)—A yellow twigged dogwood similar in general characters to the tatarian dogwood or Siberian red osier growing six to eight feet tall with good foliage, white flowers in early summer followed by white fruits in late summer but its most conspicuous character is the bright yellow stems through the winter that make a bright spot in the landscape, especially when combined in moderation with other bright colored barks or used in front of evergreen trees. Useful in shrubbery masses and as a specimen.

NINEBARK—(*Physocarpus opulifolius*)—Grows eight feet high, of a vase form with reddish yellow stems and small yellowish green three lobed leaves that when seen at a distance while young often suggest a yellow-flowered shrub in bloom. The flowers are small, white, borne in flat-topped clusters that are not very conspicuous against the light colored foliage. A valuable shrub to brighten the effect of foliage masses, not only from the effect of the color of the leaves but also from the size and form.

COMMON AMERICAN ELDER—(*Sambucus americana*)—Grows eight feet and larger upright, though forming broad clumps of several stems. The branches are pale yellowish gray; in early summer they bear many small white flowers in flat clusters above the dark-green, compound leaves. Abundant purplish-black berries follow in late summer. Useful for mass effects and lightening the effect of more sombre plants. It succeeds in any good garden soil but is especially appropriate in the neighborhood of streams and ponds.

AMERICAN CRANBERRYBUSH, HIGH BUSH CRANBERRY—(*Viburnum americanum*)—Some times grows ten feet and more high with a rather spreading habit and light gray bark, dark green, moderate sized lobed leaves, and in May small white flowers in almost flat-topped clusters three to four inches across with enlarged or ray flowers on the outside. The flowers are followed in August or later by large clusters of scarlet berries that remain showy until spring as the birds seldom eat them. Useful in the border and as specimens.

SWEET-SCENTED PHILADELPHUS OR SWEET MOCKORANGE

—(*Philadelphus coronarius*)—Is one of the common dooryard shrubs and is deservedly popular because of the abundance of its handsome fragrant white flowers in late spring. It grows upright even to ten feet high with dark brown bark that shreds off in winter leaving a lighter brown beneath. The flowers are flat usually with four petals, the whole being about an inch and a half in diameter, in small clusters. It is useful in group planting but needs low shrubs in front of it as the foliage is apt to be sparse near the ground.

SILKY DOGWOOD—(*Cornus amomum*)—Grows ten feet tall and half as broad with rather large dark green leaves and small white flowers in flat-topped clusters two inches across followed by purplish white berries in early fall. But the most distinctive character is the purplish bark that is showy through the winter and is especially effective with a dark background like evergreens. Also useful in combination with brown and gray stemmed plants.

IBOTA PRIVET—(*Ligustrum ibota*)—Grows to a height of ten feet and almost as broad with spreading and curving branches of grayish bark small leaves and small white flowers in nodding clusters. Good as a specimen and in clumps with other plants.

SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES OVER TWELVE FEET TALL.

FLOWERING DOGWOOD—(*Cornus florida*)—A small tree attaining a height of ten to fifteen feet with the branches arranged in horizontal layers with reddish branchlets, dark-green leaves, small greenish-white flowers in May, in small clusters surrounded by four very showy white bracts that have the appearance of petals looking as though the flower was three or four inches across. The flowers are followed in the fall by showy scarlet fruits a half-inch long that hold most of the winter. A handsome tree for specimens or as an overshrub in borders or clumps.

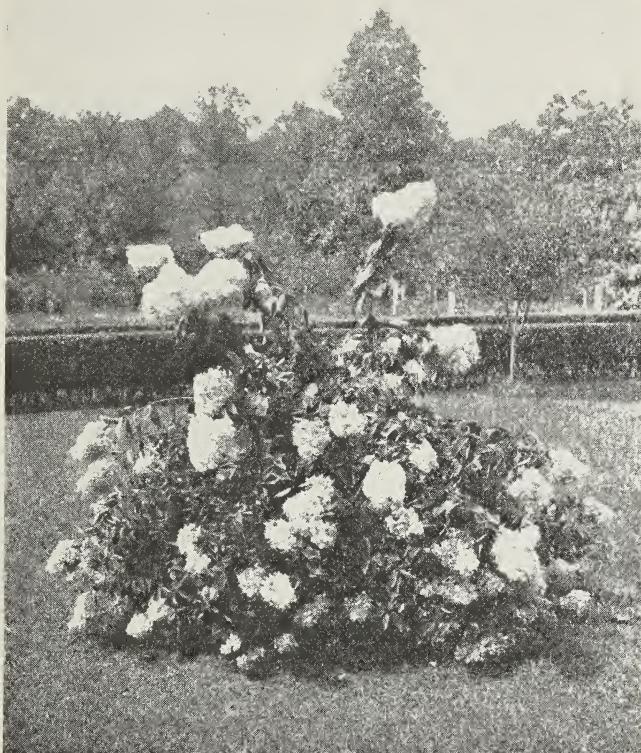
FRINGE TREE—(*Chionanthus virginica*)—Attains a height of thirty feet when crowded with other plants in a swamp, but under cultivation is most useful for heights of twelve or fifteen feet. If grown as a specimen in the open it sometimes makes a bush as broad as high. The leaves are large, light-green and the flowers in drooping white fringe-like clusters about the first of June. It is useful either as a specimen or in the middle of shrubbery clumps.

SIBERIAN PEA-TREE—(*Caragana arborescens*)—Usually about twelve feet tall, although it sometimes reaches a height of twenty feet of upright form with leaves of eight or more dark-green leaflets and somewhat drooping clusters of two to four showy though small yellow flowers. It has green twigs and is useful in shrubbery masses.

COMMON LILAC—(*Syringa vulgaris*)—Is one of the commonest and deservedly popular shrubs, growing fifteen feet and more tall with upright grayish branches, medium size dark-green leaves and in late spring small sweet-scented lilac, purplish, blue or white flowers in large panicles. They thrive on any good garden soil but the results are more satisfactory if there is plenty of fertility and moisture, although they are among the best of plants for dry regions.

HARDY GARDEN HYDRANGEA—(*Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora*)—The popular late summer flowering shrub that makes a show when most shrubs are through. This is usually seen at heights under fifteen feet, although it may grow much taller. It can easily be kept as low as five feet by annual pruning. Its tendency is to grow to a single stem with a broad top, or if crowded to grow upright with large, bright green foliage. The flowers are born in large conical panicles in August, holding on until frost or after. When first open the flowers are white but later those near the base of the cone-shaped cluster turn pink. The size of the panicles depends on the fertility of the soil and the severity of the pruning. As they are born on the ends of the branches springing from wood of the previous season the number of possible flower clusters can be reduced by severe pruning. The more severe the pruning the fewer the branches, hence the fewer the possible number of panicles and the larger each may be. On an unpruned plant the panicles may be as

short as three or four inches, while on a very severely pruned one they may be as long as twelve inches. The decorative effect of occasionally and little pruned bushes may be fully as great as of severely pruned ones.



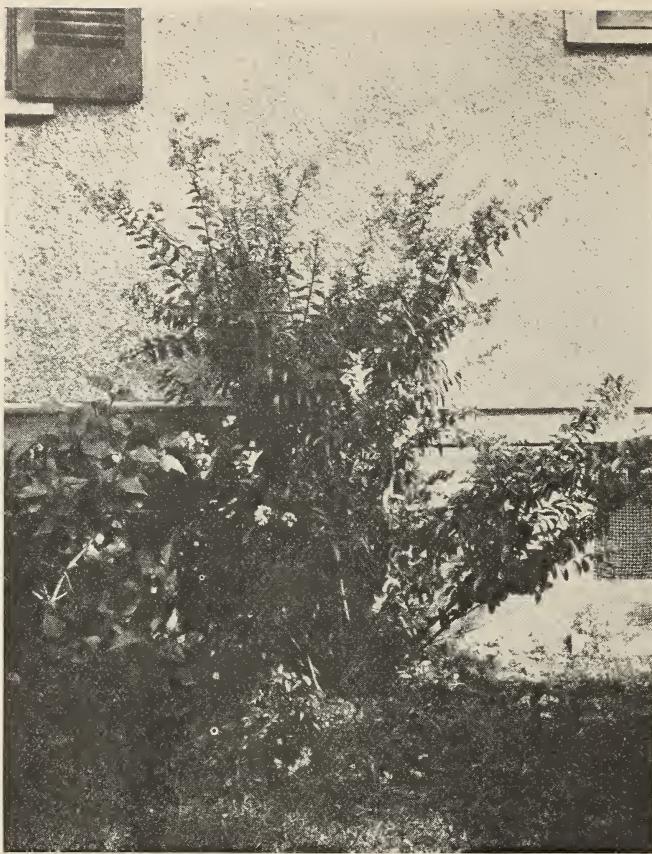
Hardy garden hydrangea.

BLACKHAW—(*Viburnum prunifolium*)—Forms an upright shrub or small tree some times as high as fifteen feet with small dark-green leaves and clusters two to four inches across of small white flowers in early spring followed by blue-black berries in the fall. Useful with lower growing shrubs that can hide the tendency to have little foliage near the ground.

GOAT WILLOW—(*Salix caprea*)—Is an upright growing small tree that some times attains a height of eighteen feet or more with deep brownish-red young shoots and leaves much broader and darker than most willows. The catkins in March are unusually large and showy. The whole tree is most ornamental at all seasons of the year and is worthy of being planted on any moderately good soil.

COMMON SMOKE TREE OR MIST TREE—(*Cotinus coggygria*)—Grows fifteen feet high with nearly as much spread with brown branches, medium size broad, dark-green leaves and conspicuous feathery appendages to the fruits that in late summer appear to envelope the plant in a purplish smoke or mist that is unusual and attractive. Useful as a specimen or in the shrubbery group. It succeeds on dry or gravelly soil, as well as in good garden soil.

CRAPE MYRTLE—(*Lagerstroemia indica*)—Is a handsome shrub or small tree that is to southern gardens what lilacs and philadelphus are to northern gardens. It sometimes attains a height of thirty-five feet, but in Wash-



Crape Myrtle in the center with lilac on the left.

ton a height of ten or twelve feet would be about as great as might be expected with the occasional killing back that is likely to occur. Its habit is ascending so that it attains a spread of two-thirds its height. The bark is rich yellowish brown, the leaves a bright lively green, the young ones having something of a bronzy tinge. It begins flowering in mid-summer and continues until the approach of cold weather. The hardiest variety appears to be a purple, although white, pink and red varieties are also being grown about Washington. The roots will usually survive, although the tops are killed to the ground.

AMOOR RIVER PRIVET—(*Ligustrum amurense*)—Grows upright to a height of fifteen feet and almost as much broad with grayish stems, small, dark leaves and dainty white flowers in short sweet-scented, upright clusters, followed by small, blackish berry-like fruits. Useful in the back of shrubbery plantations where a vigorous rather stiff plant with good foliage is needed, or also as specimens. Responds to pruning remarkably well upon occasion.

CALIFORNIA PRIVET—(*Ligustrum ovalifolium*)—An upright growing shrub attaining a height of fifteen feet and a width almost as great, forming a broadly oval top with medium size dark green leaves that are almost evergreen and an abundance of small sweet-scented white flowers in small clusters that are followed by black berry-like fruits. It stands severe pruning and is adapted to sheared specimens for use in the back of shrubbery groups where a dark-green mass is desired.